



## Mick Hunt

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### *Doing the Right Thing*

Impeccable integrity, ethical, thoughtful, caring, and a drive to do the right thing are thoughts that immediately come to mind when those who know Mick are asked about him. He certainly embraces the concepts of doing the right things in his life and his profession. When he is faced with difficult decisions, he approaches them in his naturally thoughtful manner and you can almost see his thinking process including fact-gathering, analysis, and assessing the right thing to do followed by his decision. As he shares here, doing the right thing should become engrained in the fabric of who you are as a leader and a person.

Mick is Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Pharmacy Administration at the Northeast Ohio Medical University College of Pharmacy in Akron, where he led the process to implement a combined master of science degree and administrative residency program. He is formerly Vice President of Pharmacy with Novation, the supply chain management company for the VHA and the University Hospital Consortium. Mick was also Director of Pharmacy at the University of Kentucky Hospital and Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Illinois.

Mick received his bachelor of science and master of science degrees from the Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and completed a concurrent residency in hospital pharmacy at Grant Hospital in Columbus. He also holds a master of business administration degree from the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management.

Mick offers great advice for the many times that you are confronted with difficult decisions during your career and life: *consider your options carefully and make ethical decisions.*



Dear Young Pharmacist,

I would like to share with you a principle that I have found helpful in guiding my career. It makes common sense and is certainly not a novel idea; but it is one of those things easier said than done. Putting this principle into practice may require a disciplined effort on your part or help from others until it becomes a natural way for you to do things.

“What’s the right thing to do?” During my tenure as president of American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), that was a question I heard more often than I care to remember from Henri Manasse, the Executive Vice President and CEO of ASHP at that time. Believe me, when you have that question posed to you repeatedly, it changes your way of thinking and the decisions you make. Eventually, however, it becomes engrained into the fabric of who you are as a leader and a person. Although I felt that I had embraced this concept of always trying to do the right thing during my entire career, Dr. Manasse really drove it home to me and raised my awareness to a new level.

Doing the right thing means that you make decisions and do things based on considering a perspective larger than your own. It means considering what is best for another individual, a constituent group you serve, the organization, or the profession—even if it is not in your personal best interest. It means not reacting to a situation in a manner you will later regret, but thinking through what an appropriate response would be.

Many examples of doing the right thing that I experienced as president of ASHP involved making difficult funding decisions when the economy took a downturn. Funding new programs was critical; but so, too, was upgrading computer capabilities, promoting pharmacists as medication management experts, moving to electronic-based publications, promoting medication safety, and retaining an excellent staff. There were many worthy endeavors to pursue, but we had to consider diminished funds. Those were tough decisions, but the ASHP Board of Directors and staff worked together in the best interest of its members.